## Consideration of the dedication of the Lawrence Creek Nature Preserve in Marion County

The proposed Nature Preserve is a 232.35 acre property in the southwest corner of the Fort Harrison State Park within Marion County. This nature preserve protects the Lawrence Creek drainage, an important part of the Fall Creek watershed and along with a block of forested habitat in Indiana's Central Till Plain.

This Nature Preserve consists of topography that has heavily dissected slopes with ravine forests along the botanically-rich Lawrence Creek drainage with a small area of till plain flatwoods within the unit along with their expected component flora and fauna. Many of these species are area sensitive forest interior plants and animals dependent upon large, unfragmented forest ecosystems.

Noteworthy animal species found in this Nature Preserve include:

The site is utilized as nesting habitat for a suite of neotropical migrant birds, including Hooded Warbler, Brown Creeper, Wood Thrush, Ovenbird, Acadian Flycatcher, and Kentucky Warbler. The red-shouldered hawk is also present in these habitats. A multiuse trail, for both mountain bikers and hikers, will be constructed in this nature preserve, replacing existing trails. Additionally, a horse trail traverses through a portion of the nature preserve.

This tract is owned and managed by the Department of Natural Resources and the Division of State Parks and Reservoirs.

The Division of Nature Preserves and the Division of State Parks and Reservoirs recommend dedication of this site as a State Nature Preserve.

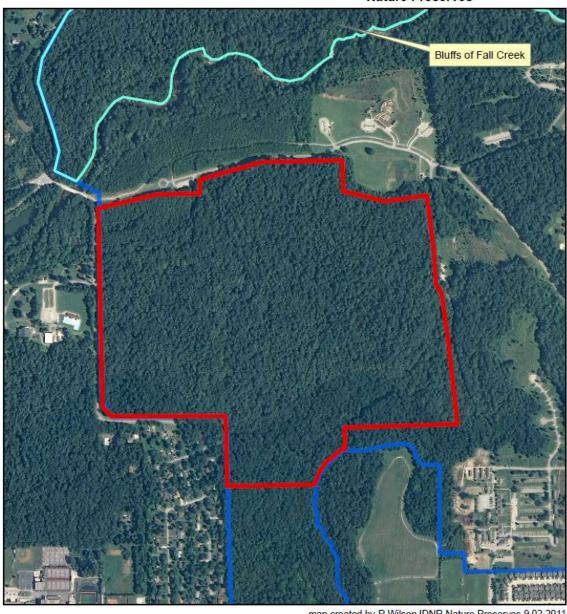
Attached is Nature Preserves exhibit A.

## Lawrence Creek Nature Preserve Exhibit A

County: Marion USGS Map: Fishers 7.5 Quad

232.35 acres Ownership: State Parks and Reservoirs Size:

**Nature Preserves** 



map created by R Wilson IDNR Nature Preserves 9.02.2011

